

SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AS OFFICIAL ADVISERS TO VARIOUS U.S. DELEGATIONS RELATING TO TRADE AGREEMENTS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the provisions of section 161(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2211) and upon the recommendation of the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, the Chair has selected the following members of that committee to be accredited by the President as official advisers to the U.S. delegations to international conferences, meetings, and negotiation sessions relating to trade agreements during the 1st session of the 104th Congress:

Mr. ARCHER of Texas;
Mr. CRANE of Illinois;
Mr. THOMAS of California;
Mr. GIBBONS of Florida; and
Mr. RANGEL of New York.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, our contract with America states, on the first day of Congress, a Republican House will: force Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else; cut one-third of committee staff, and cut the congressional budget.

We have done that.

In the next 87 days, we will vote on the following 10 items:

No. 1, a balanced budget amendment and line-item veto;

No. 2, a new crime bill to stop violent criminals;

No. 3, welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence;

No. 4, family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children;

No. 5, tax cuts for families to lift Government's burden from middle-income Americans and senior citizens too;

No. 6, national security restoration to protect our freedoms and our military chain of command;

No. 7, Senior Citizens' Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government penalties from their Government;

No. 8, Government regulation and unfunded mandate reforms;

No. 9, commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits that are costly, and

No. 10, congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract with America. This will happen.

RUSSIAN AID

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the new \$64,000 question for Congress: Is Boris Yeltsin Russia's George Washington? Or is Boris Yeltsin just another Joseph Stalin? One thing is for sure, we have a national debt that is out of sight, a trade deficit that continues to grow. The American people are worried about losing their homes, losing their jobs, and we keep sending billions of dollars over to Russia and we keep wining and dining Boris Yeltsin.

Ladies and gentlemen, we turned our back when it was only 140 of the Old Guard he slaughtered. Now he is attacking citizens in Chechnya. I say one thing is very sure, we have very little money. If we have any, we should spend it in America. Even when we do, we call it pork. Well, if it is pork in America, let me tell you we are sending a prize-winning Porky the Pig over there in Russia. And if there is going to be freedom in Russia, the Russian people should die for it.

Think about it.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING RULES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minutes.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I want to remind my colleagues that the Rules Committee will meet tomorrow at 11 a.m., to report an open rule for the consideration of H.R. 5, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995.

The rule may include and this is why I rise today, to let Members know, a provision giving priority in recognition to Members who have caused their amendments to be printed in the amendment section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to their consideration—though this would not be mandatory.

General debate is scheduled for Thursday of this week on the floor, and the amendment process will begin on Friday, so Members wishing to have priority recognition should submit their amendments for printing in the RECORD no later than Thursday.

I would point out that it is not necessary to submit your amendments to the Rules Committee or to come up and testify, since we do plan on providing an open amendment process.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted to an amendment in the nature of a substitute, we will make in order the changes recommended by the committees of jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to let the membership now that we intend to meet at 1 p.m. on Monday, January 23, to take testimony on a rule for the consideration of House Joint Resolution 1, which is the balanced budget constitutional amendment.

As I announced last Wednesday on the floor and through a "Dear Colleague" letter sent to all Members last week, the rule may include a provision

permitting only the offering of amendments in the nature of a substitute by Members who have caused their amendments to be printed in the amendment section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and this is the important part, no later than this coming Friday, January 20.

Mr. Speaker, Members wishing to testify in support of their substitutes at next Monday's hearing should contact the Rules Committee at extension 5-9191 by Friday of this week.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield for an inquiry?

Mr. SOLOMON. If I have the time I will be glad to yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, the only inquiry I have is that members of the Committee on the Judiciary were concerned because the committee did not have a 7-day notice before the markup, and had written the chairman of the Judiciary Committee asking him to reopen it because many amendments were not presented in the markup of that constitutional amendment.

My understanding is the Parliamentarian said we should have to deal with the 7-day notice. Will the Rules Committee delay the meeting on the rule until we have had the 7-day notice?

Mr. SOLOMON. I would say to the gentlewoman we could not do that. We are under a time constraint, as the gentlewoman knows, and since January 4 we have set the time schedule so that Members developing alternatives in the nature of a substitute have had plenty of time. I for one am interested in that myself and we have been discussing it with Members on both sides of the aisle. I believe by this coming Friday, 3 weeks will have passed and we all will have had time to develop our alternatives if we have them. And we are going to consider all of those alternatives, as you know, up in the Rules Committee.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. If the gentleman will yield further, the issue was not that per se, but that the Committee on the Judiciary, which marked up the constitutional amendment, did not get 7 days' notice as of the markup, which under the rules of the House is required, and we did not get to deal with the issues that go right to the core of that balanced budget amendment: Judicial review and standing. Those to me go right to the core of whether it works or not. So that is our issue.

Should not the committee finish that, because we will not know what kind of substitutes?

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognized the gentleman from New York for 1 minute. This is not debate time beyond that.

Mr. SOLOMON. I thank the Speaker. We cannot take up more of the time. I will tell the gentlewoman I will be glad to discuss it with the chairman and ranking member of the committee. I believe the 7 days' time has been ample, but we will discuss it with